(c) It is not true that the Gandhian Institutions are being singled out for discrimination by Government.

Consultation with religious head for history text books

1391. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Human Resource Development has taken a decision to ask religious heads to vet the history text books and remove what they term as the objectionable portions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the process is on the way?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Uniform Education

†1392. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to abolish the existing dual education system and provide uniform education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are also considering to provide technical and computer science, engineering and medical science education to lower class, middle class and poor children of rural areas, as being provided to urban children and children of rich families; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 provides for a National System of Education which implies that, up to a given level, all students, irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex, have access to education of a comparable quality. It includes a common educational structure, a national curriculum framework and minimum levels of learning for each stage of education.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) The NPE and its Programme of Action provide for a definite edge for education in rural areas. Pursuant to this, a number of schemes are under various stages of implementation, which predominantly address the educational needs of rural areas including technical education.

At the Secondary level, for imparting computer education to students, a Scheme viz. Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools is implemented. The scheme is proposed to be revamped/renamed in the X Five Year Plan as Information and Computer Technology in Schools. Other initiatives include "Project Vidya" in association with INTEL for training of teachers and development of curriculum based software; certificate in computer education and X-ray Technicians' course conducted by National Open School etc. In the technical education sector, initiatives include strengthening and consolidation of infrastructural facilities in engineering and technical education institutions; establishment of more engineering and technical education institutions and increased intake capacities; establishment of Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) at Allahabad and Indian Institute of Information Technology & Management (IIITM) at Gwalior; increasing output of information technology manpower; mobilisation of private initiatives; development of technologies in emerging areas and their transfer to user agencies through technology development missions; transfer of techno-economic advances in technical education and appropriate technologies to rural people through expansion of Community Polytechnics; World Bank assisted Technician Education Project and Canada India Institute Industry Linkage Project; constitution of an All India Board on Information Technology (IT) Education under All India Council for Technical Education etc. Indira Gandhi National Open University is providing Internet education through its computer science programmes; including an Advanced Diploma in IT, Bachelor in IT etc. through its network of regional and study centres spread all over the country.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare also follows a Uniform Policy for medical science education.

Computer literacy in Assam

1393. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount allocated and released for computer literacy in rural and urban areas of Assam during the last three years;